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News Release

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
San Bernardino Unit
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Dave Neff, Acting Chief

Calif. Biodiversity Council Visits San Bernardino Mountains

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SAN BERNARDINO — The San Bernardino Unit of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection will play host to the California Biodiversity Council. The Council, which consists of various state and federal resource management and environmental protection organizations is visiting the area to see first hand what recovery actions are being taken following last year's fires.

The California Biodiversity Council was formed in 1991 to improve coordination and cooperation between the various resource management and environmental protection organizations at the state, federal, and local levels. The Council's purpose is to discuss, coordinate, and assist in developing strategies and complementary policies for conserving biodiversity. Members exchange information, resolve conflicts, and promote development of regional conservation practices. The Council has 40 members, including ten regional associations of county supervisors and governments, 16 state agencies, 12 federal agencies, the University of California, and the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts.

The Council will be in the San Bernardino Mountains on June 16 and 17. A tour of the mountain area, including the area burned in last year's Old fire. Council members will be shown several fire protection and conservation projects currently in effect. This is the first meeting of the Council in 2004.

MEDIA NOTE: The media is invited to cover the first day tour or the second day meeting. For more information on the Council, contact Lauren McNees, Communications Coordinator at 916-445-5845. Additional information is attached to this news release.

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